

APR 23 1970

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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY**MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT**

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger (S1900) DR
SUBJECT: B-52 Strikes in Northern Laos

USAF, NSA
reviews
completed.

Twelve B-52 sorties struck four targets in northern Laos during the night of April 22/23. The strike against two of the targets produced 20 secondary explosions of up to five times the normal size. Poor weather conditions prevented an assessment of results against the remaining two targets. [REDACTED] The target areas contained elements of two North Vietnamese regiments, command and control elements, and key enemy logistics areas which directly support North Vietnamese units in contact with friendly forces.

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The following information, which indicates the heavy impact on the enemy of earlier B-52 strikes in northern Laos, has recently been reported by Ambassador Godley:

-- Intercepted enemy messages have confirmed that elements of the 148th NVA Regiment were struck by B-52's on April 17 and have revealed that there were many wounded who had not been removed from the area.

-- Forty-two enemy bodies were discovered on a ridge line struck during the April 18 raid.

-- Enemy messages on April 14 stated that a large number of enemy troops were sick and suffering from concussions. This is probably the result of B-52 strikes in the area.

HAK:JTH:lds:4/23/70

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